

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 05525 110449Z

21

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 /067 W

----- 009372

R 092120Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5835

INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5525

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PE

SUBJECT: PERUVIAN REQUEST TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL APCS

REF: (A) LIMA 10710, 191550Z DEC 74 (B) STATE 035303, 150123Z FEB 75

(C) ROME 9158

1. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL THAT THE GOP REQUESTED PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA FOR THE PURCHASE OF 280 M-113 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS IN APRIL 1974. THIS PURCHASE WAS TO BE ADDITIONAL TO THE ALREADY-APPROVED SALE OF 131 M-113 APCS. THE USG HAS NEVER FORMALLY ANSWERED THE GOP REQUEST BUT HAS SAID INFORMALLY THAT NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN REACHED BUT THE REQUEST IS STILL BEING CONSIDERED.

2. NOW THERE IS A NEW ELEMENT: ON JUNE 26 THE GOP INFORMED MAAG OF ITS WISH TO SEEK PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA FOR 140 APCS INSTEAD OF 280, AND ASKED ME TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING APPROVAL FOR THE SALE AND EXPEDITING THE DELIVERY SCHEDULE.

3. I HAVE BEEN VERY FRANK IN DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF THIS AND OTHER MILITARY PURCHASES BY THE GOP WITH PRIME MINISTER MORALES BERMUDEZ AND OTHER KEY ELEMENTS IN THE GOP. I HAVE POINTED TO THE RATHER IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF U.S. MILITARY COOPERATION AND SALES TO PERU OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS BUT HAVE ALSO REALISTICALLY

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 05525 110449Z

EXAMINED WITH THEM SOME OF THE POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PROB-

LEMS WHICH HAVE HAD A BEARING ON CERTAIN PURCHASE REQUESTS SUCH AS FOR THE ADDITIONAL 280 APCs AND THE LONG-PENDING HOT SHIP TRANSFER. I HAVE LAUDED AND ENCOURAGED PERU'S EFFORTS THROUGH HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGE VISITS AND REGIONAL ARMS LIMITATIONS EFFORTS TO DISPEL SPECULATION AND FEARS OF POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH CHILE. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT I HAVE DISCUSSED PERU'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APCs. SEVERAL TIMES I HAVE TOLD THEM THAT IF THEY WANTED AN IMMEDIATE ANSWER, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE "NO", BUT IF THEY WERE PATIENT, THE DOOR WOULD PROBABLY STILL BE OPEN. I HAVE ALSO EMPHASIZED THE LONG LEAD-TIME FOR DELIVERY OF SUCH VEHICLES AND THE FACT OF RISING PRICES DUE TO INFLATION AND RISING COSTS.

4. I HAVE AGREED TO CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON CONCERNING THEIR MOST RECENT DEMARCHE IN WHICH THEY HAVE REDUCED THEIR PURCHASE REQUEST. I HAVE TOLD THEM THAT EITHER I OR DCM BARNEBEY (AND IT WILL BE THE LATTER) WOULD PURSUE THIS MATTER ON AN INFORMAL BASIS IN WASHINGTON IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO.

5. I RECOGNIZE THE RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PERUVIAN REQUEST TO OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THIS PART OF THE HEMISPHERE, ESPECIALLY OF THE CHANCES OF CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU. AS REPORTED IN OUR CABLES AND IN OUR CASP, OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT THE CHANCES FOR ARMED CONFLICT ARE SMALL AND TENDING TO DIMINISH. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF OUR RELATIONS WITH GOP AND WITH PRIME MINISTER MORALES BERMUDEZ, WHO PERSONALLY SUPPORTS THIS REQUEST, OUR SALE TO PERU OF AN ADDITIONAL 140 APCs IS TO BE RECOMMENDED. THE PERUVIAN ARMY PREFERS U.S. EQUIPMENT BUT CAN BE EXPECTED (AS IN THE CASE OF THE SOVIET TANKS) TO LOOK ELSEWHERE SHOULD WE CLOSE THE DOOR TO THIS PARED-DOWN REQUEST. IN ANY CASE, BOTH IN RESPONSE TO THIS CABLE AND THROUGH DCM BARNEBEY'S SOUNDINGS IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK, WE ARE SEEKING A CLEAR IDEA OF PROSPECTS IN ORDER TO INFORM THE GOP ACCORDINGLY.
DEAN UNQUOTE DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, MILITARY SALES, MILITARY VEHICLES, TRACKED VEHICLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA05525
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750239-0571
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750773/aaaacnka.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LIMA 10710, 75 STATE 35303
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERUVIAN REQUEST TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL APCS
TAGS: MASS, PE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006